

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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**UN Human Rights Council
Fifteenth, 13 September – 1 October 2010**

**Item 6:
Consideration of UPR reports**

Kyrgyzstan

Mr. President,

There are consistent and credible reports that during the recent violent events in June 2010 targeting ethnic Uzbeks in southern Kyrgyzstan, which drove thousands of people to flee their homes, the security forces either failed to prevent or colluded in the commission of human rights abuses. Moreover, during subsequent search operations security officers are reported to have carried out arbitrary arrests, subjected detainees to torture or other ill-treatment and denied them access to medical treatment or private meetings with their lawyer. Amnesty International is particularly alarmed at continuing reports that the authorities have attempted to obstruct the legitimate work of human rights defenders, lawyers and other civil society actors in documenting or otherwise responding to the June events. Many have been subjected to threats, beatings, arbitrary detention, torture or other ill-treatment. Some now face long prison terms in harsh conditions following manifestly unfair trials.

Mr. President,

In the light of these grave concerns Amnesty International welcomes Kyrgyzstan's stated support of recommendations made by other States during the review to condemn the use of torture and other ill-treatment; to strengthen safeguards against torture, including through the establishment of a system of independent monitoring of detention centres; to ensure prompt, impartial and comprehensive investigation of all allegations of torture; to ensure accountability for human rights violations; and to guarantee that all human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists and other civil society activists can work without fear of intimidation, harassment, detention and torture or other ill-treatment.¹ We welcome the government's

¹ A/HRC/15/2, paragraphs 76.50, 76.51, 76.52, 76.53, 76.54, 76.55, 76.57, 76.71, 76.74, and 76.81.

commitment in the Working Group that human rights protection would remain an indivisible part of its activities.² We urge the government to honour this commitment and to give immediate effect to these recommendations.

Finally, Mr President,

We also urge Kyrgyzstan to accept the recommendation by many States to extend a standing invitation to this Council's Special Procedures. This would be a welcome indication that Kyrgyzstan is prepared to fully cooperate with the UN and underline its commitment to ensure protection of human rights and accountability for their violation.³

Thank you, Mr President.

² Ibid, paragraph 75.

³ Ibid, paragraphs 77.22, 77.23, 77.24, 77.26, 77.27, 77.28, 77.29, and 77.30.